

### **AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

#### **In the Claims:**

1. (Currently amended) Transdermal formulation comprising

a synthetic rubber adhesive selected from the group consisting of a styrene-butadiene-styrene block copolymer and a styrene-butadiene block copolymer,

~~an opioid analgesic from the phenanthrene group~~ buprenorphine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof as active ingredient and

an aloe composition as transdermal penetration agent.

2. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 3, wherein the patch is provided with a covering layer.

3. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 1, wherein the formulation is a patch selected from the group of matrix type patch, reservoir type patch, multi-laminate drug-in-adhesive type patch, and monolithic drug-in-adhesive type patch.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 3, wherein the patch comprises a backing, and a release liner.

6. (Previously presented - withdrawn) Formulation according to claim 1, further comprising an adhesive selected from the group consisting of natural rubber; acrylic adhesive; polyvinylacetate; polydimethylsiloxane; hydrogels, high molecular weight polyvinylpyrrolidone and oligomeric polyethylene oxide.

7-12. (Cancelled)

13. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 1, wherein the extracting agent of the aloe extract or the vehicle is a vegetable oil.

14. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 12, wherein the extracting agent of the aloe extract or the vehicle is a vegetable oil.

15. (Original) Formulation according to claim 14, wherein the vegetable oil is hydrogenated oil.

16. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 14, wherein the vegetable oil is soybean oil.

17. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 1, wherein the formulation comprises another penetration agent in addition to the aloe composition.

18. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 17, wherein the additional penetration agent is selected from the group consisting of ethyl alcohol; isopropyl alcohol; octyl phenol; polyethylene glycol octylphenyl ether; oleic acid; polyethylene glycol (PEG), PEG 400; propylene glycol; N-decylmethyl sulfoxide; fatty acid esters, isopropyl myristate, methyl laurate, glycerol monooleate, propylene glycol monooleate; and N-methyl pyrrolidone.

19. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 1, wherein the formulation comprises a preservative selected from the group of alcohols, quaternary amines, organic acids, parabens and phenols.

20. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 5, wherein the backing comprises of a material selected from the group consisting of polyolefin, polyester, polyvinylidene chloride, polyurethane, cotton or wool.

21. (Original) Formulation according to claim 20, wherein the backing is a polyolefine foil.

22. (Original) Formulation according to claim 21, wherein the foil has a thickness of 0.5 to 1.5 and especially 0.6 to 1.0 mm.

23. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 6, wherein the adhesive consists of a component selected from the group of natural rubber; synthetic rubber; acrylic adhesive; polyvinylacetate; polydimethylsiloxane; hydrogels, high molecular weight polyvinylpyrrolidone and oligomeric polyethylene oxide.

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Previously presented) The formulation of claim 20, wherein the formulation comprises a backing consists of a material selected from the group consisting of polyolefin, polyester, polyvinylidene chloride, polyurethane, cotton or wool.

26. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 13, wherein the vegetable oil is hydrogenated oil.

27. (Previously presented) Formulation according to claim 13, wherein the vegetable oil is soybean oil.

28. (Currently amended - withdrawn) A method of enhancing the penetration of a formulation comprising buprenorphine ~~an opioid analgesic from the phenanthrene group~~ which comprises of adding an aloe composition to said formulation to form the formulation of claim 1.

29. (Currently amended - withdrawn) A method of transdermally administering buprenorphine ~~an opioid analgesic from the phenanthrene group~~ which comprises of applying the formulation of claim 1 to the skin of patient in need thereof.

30. (New) Formulation according to claim 22, wherein the foil has a thickness of 0.6 to 1.0 mm.